

The Cheerful Letter

EVERY PLACE A CHURCH; EVERY DAY THE LORD'S DAY; ALL EVENTS BLESSINGS; ALL JOY
THANKSGIVING; AND ALL NATURE AND LIFE FULL OF GOD.—*James Freeman Clarke.*

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THE CHEERFUL LETTER.

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CONTENTS OF NO. 6.

SONGS OF THANKSGIVING.....	35
MAN'S STEWARDSHIP ON THIS EARTH.....	35
THE STILL HOUR.....	36
THE BOOK AND MAGAZINE CLUB.....	37
THE MOTHERS' COUNCIL:—	
OUR PROPER RELATIONSHIP TO ANIMALS..	40
CHILDREN'S CLASSICS:—	
THE LEGEND BEAUTIFUL.....	40
THE AMUSEMENT COLUMN.....	41
IMPORTANT NOTICES.....	42

SONGS OF THANKSGIVING.

*"This is the day which the Lord hath made.
We will rejoice and be glad in it."*

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the
Lord,

And to sing praises unto thy name, O Most
High:

To show forth thy loving-kindness in the
morning,

And thy faithfulness every night.

For thou, Lord, hast made me glad through
thy work;

I will triumph in the works of thy hands.

O Lord, how great are thy works,

And thy thoughts are very deep!

O sing unto the Lord a new song:

Sing unto the Lord, all the earth.

Sing unto the Lord, bless his name,

Show forth his salvation from day to day.

Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth
be glad;

Let the sea roar and the fulness thereof;

Let the field be joyful, and all that is
therein.

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye
lands;

Serve the Lord with gladness;

Come before his presence with singing.

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving,

And into his courts with praise.

Be thankful unto him and bless his name.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is
good;

For his mercy endureth forever.

To him that made great lights,—

For his mercy endureth forever.

The sun to rule by day,—

For his mercy endureth forever.

The moon and stars to rule by night,—

For his mercy endureth forever.

Who giveth food to all flesh,—

For his mercy endureth forever.

O give thanks unto the God of heaven,—

For his mercy endureth forever.

—*Psalms xcii., xcvi., c., cxlvi.*

MAN'S STEWARDSHIP ON THIS EARTH.

*"A certain man had two sons; and he came
to the first, and said, Son, go work to-day in my
vineyard. He answered and said, I will not;
but afterward he repented, and went."—MATT.
xxi. 28, 29.*

"He repented"; to speak more exactly,
he changed his mind, he thought better
about it; and instead of passing the day
in idleness he went to work.

The vineyard in the parable is this
earth, which God has given to the children
of men, that they may put it to the highest
uses. He bids us go work in it; and it
is one of the most encouraging signs of
our religious times that many who have
had no mind for such work are going into
this vineyard, and are becoming workers
with God. It is a change which is making
religion what it was once to Prophets and
Evangelists,—a blessed hope for this world
as well as for worlds to come. And it will
be easier for us than it once was to under-
stand that God calls upon us to work for
Him to-day and on this earth; that in the
plan and ordering of His Providence there
is work which is properly ours, and which
is done or left undone as we do it or fail
to do it,—work as distinctly ours as the
task of the laborer who is sent into the
vineyard is distinctly his, and done well or
ill or not at all, as he is faithful or faith-
less. Doubtless God might have made a
world in which we should have been only
lookers-on, amusing ourselves perhaps, or

it may be eagerly advancing some purely selfish objects, and in no way responsible for human fortunes; but He has not made such a world. The earth as well as the heavens is His; but the earth He has given to us, and its supreme interests are very largely in our care. We believe that He made our world, and is the Master-worker in it, and forever its Light and Life; that we can do nothing in it without Him, and that the obligation which we feel to labor is a Divine call.

Man's stewardship on earth is as old as man's creation. Nothing can be plainer than this, that he was called into life to be a worker here with God, and that it has pleased God to make him indispensable to the world's success. What we call his moral freedom, his "I will" or "I will not," counts for something as a condition in the order of events. It is a mysterious force, which is akin to the Divine energy. It is an element which was unknown in the life of earth before man's coming, only feebly recognized and manifested in the days of his feebleness and ignorance, but increasing more and more as time went on, until now, as we look into the future of our race, we can scarcely assign for it any limits material or moral, whether we are opening up vast continents for arts and industries and their results, or multiplying the treasures of the mind and the heart. The world is, and more and more is to be, what we make it, as we study its Divine order, as we are alive to recognize necessities, opportunities, promises, threatenings; as we accept the situation, and find it our plain duty to do the thing which needs to be done and ought to be done,—to do it at once and with our might, relying upon God to help us, but not waiting in the vain hope that He will do our work for us.

In our new times there has come a notion that somehow the world will work itself right under some course of Nature, some survival of the fittest, with which it is idle or worse for us to intermeddle, but this notion will prove to be vain. Work for it, saith God, and you shall have it. For all our praying, He will not make our world what He means it to be unless we come up to His help; and as to any order of Nature working blandly for us, it is for us to study and laboriously conform ourselves and others to this order of Nature, if we would make the times better.

What man was meant to be, as a power to shape and modify and finish the natural

world—the surface of our planet, the rivers, the fields, the hills, the forests—is abundantly to be seen. It has unhappily been very manifest in neglects and abuses; the desolations which it has made in the earth, as, for example, in the fairest and fruitfulest provinces of the old Roman Empire, the wasted and solitary soils of Persia and the remote East,—lands flowing once with milk and honey, a territory more extended than that of all Europe, but now very largely withdrawn from human use, the sad results of ignorance, of temporal and spiritual tyranny and cruelty. God chose to be helped there, and He was hindered. It did matter that man was found foolish and unworthy.

And on the other hand it has been often the other way. Wildernesses have been turned into gardens, seas changed into dry land, parched grounds refreshed with pools of water, mountains pierced or scaled, that men might have farms and homesteads and fair cities and noble civilizations,—an earth subdued with consummate art and giant industry. It is true, of course, that God lays upon us a necessity to work with Him, and does not entrust such great ends and expectations to our wilfulness alone; and yet it continually remains for us to answer the unceasing call into the vineyard with a flat refusal, or an idle promise or profession, which is even worse. He leaves it for us to be alive or dead to our opportunity, material or moral; to feel or not to feel the necessity which is laid upon us; to be attentive or deaf to His voice; to find or not to find it a plain duty to make at least a little corner of our world somewhat brighter, cleaner, happier than when we came into it.

(To be continued.)

THE STILL HOUR.

If I had known in the morning
How wearily all the day
The words unkind
Would trouble my mind
I said when you went away,
I had been more careful, darling,
Nor given you needless pain;
But we vex "our own"
With look and tone
We might never take back again.

For though in the quiet evening
You may give me the kiss of peace,

Yet well it might be
That never for me
The pain of the heart should cease.
How many go forth in the morning
Who never come home at night!
And hearts have broken
For harsh words spoken
That sorrow can ne'er set right.

We have careful thought for the stranger,
And smiles for the sometime guest,
But oft for "our own"
The bitter tone,
Though we love our own the best.
Ah! lip with the curve impatient;
Ah! brow with that look of scorn!
'Twere a cruel fate
Were the night too late
To undo the work of morn.
—Margaret Sangster.

THE BOOK AND MAGAZINE CLUB.

Send all offers and requests for this department to
Mrs. W. B. Nichols, 25 Fairmount Way, Quincy, Mass.,
Tel. Quincy 1140.

Please remember, when you see a request for a book in the Book Club, to write a card to Mrs. Nichols, asking "Shall I send such a book to such a person?" before sending it, else the person who requests it may receive several copies. When any one writes directly to you, asking for a book offered by you, send a card to Mrs. Nichols, saying that you have sent it. When you receive more requests than you can meet, send these to the Book Club to be printed here.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

Mrs. Sarah M. Thomas, formerly of Dodson, Virginia, is now at Fieldale, Virginia.

Mrs. J. J. Becker's present address is Fort Niagara, New York, 2d Dept.

OFFERS.

For the following magazines please apply to Mrs. F. C. Brush, Montclair, New Jersey: *Art and Archeology* (fifty-one numbers); *Geographic* (odd numbers); *Woman's Home Companion*, 1921; odd numbers of *Atlantic Monthly*; and *American Forestry*.

NOVELS.

"Dream Days," "Lady Paramount," "Definite Object," "Secret Tower," "Brother Sim's Baby," "Behind the Beyond," "Fishing Jimmy," "Worn Doorstep," "Undiscovered Country," "A Social Departure."

The following are offered by Mrs. W. B. Nichols, 25 Fairmount Way, Quincy, Mass.: "Stones of Venice" (four vols.), "The Seven Lamps of Architecture," Ruskin.

The Brighton Branch offers the following books and magazines. Address Miss C. L. Murdoch, 320 Allston Street, Brookline 47, Mass. "Songs in Many Keys," Oliver Wendell Holmes; "Poems," Mrs. Frances Dana Gage; "A Beautiful Alien," Julia Magruder; "Hypatia," Charles Kingsley; "A Daughter of the South," George Cary Eggleston; "From Kingdom to Colony," Mary Devereux; "The Grain of Dust," David Graham Phillips; Poetical Works of John Milton; Poetical Works of Mrs. Hemans; "The Letters of Charles Dickens"; "Mr. Pratt's Patients," Joseph C. Lincoln; "Don Belasco of Key West," A. C. Gunter; "When Knighthood was in Flower," Edwin Caskoden; "Old Greek Folk Stories," Josephine P. Peabody; "L'Abbé Constantin," Ludovic Halévy; *Good Housekeeping*—1920-21; *Ladies' Home Journal*—1921; *World's Work*—1921; *Collier's*—1921.

The Cambridge Branch offers the following books. Address Mrs. Henry R. Bowser, Nehoiden Street, Needham 92, Mass. Emerson's Essays; "American Literature," Painter; "The Life and Voyages of Columbus," Washington Irving; "National Flood Marks,—Week by Week Observations on American Life as seen by Collier's," edited by Mark Sullivan; "The World Decision," Robert Herrick; "American Agriculturist History"; "Walks and Talks in the Geological Field," Winchell; "The Life of the Empress Eugénie," Headley; "Rasselas," Samuel Johnson; "A Story of the Heavenly Camp Fires" (religious); "Stories by Octave Thanet and Others"; "Stories by Thomas Nelson Page and Others"; "Stories by Henry James and Others"; "Percival Keene," Captain Marryat; "Jess," Rider Haggard; story-books for girls.

REQUESTS.

1. Mrs. S. M. Turner, Dodson, Virginia, wishes to thank those who have sent reading. She would like "Shepherd of the Hills," and any of Mark Twain's books.

2. Mrs. R. L. Porter, Meigs, Georgia, asks for *The Cheerful Letter*. Also will appreciate any reading and cards for children.

3. Miss Mary Edwards, Farmville, Virginia, asks for *The Cheerful Letter* and scraps for quilts.

4. I would be glad to receive any reading matter you could send me for myself or children. I have a boy of twelve who enjoys historical sketches and general reading. I have three girls, seven and four and nine. We live on a farm in a rural district and cannot obtain reading and will appreciate any sent us. Mrs. R. L. Rose, Park, Virginia, R. D. 2.

5. Mrs. Josie Cantrell, Athens, Texas, R. D. 1, mother of six children, will be glad of suitable reading for the family, the oldest a girl of seventeen, and the youngest four years. She will also be glad of quilt scraps and *The Cheerful Letter*.

6. Mrs. Virgil Holt, Albemarle, North Carolina, Wiscassette Mill No. 4, asks for "Marmion" and "As You Like It."

7. Mattie Reynolds, Stella, Virginia, Route 1, ten years old, asks for post-cards and quilt scraps.

8. I am a girl of eleven and I should be glad if you would send me books, papers, magazines, cards, pictures. I would appreciate them so much. I like to read books and papers. Beulah J. Thornton, Pera, Virginia.

9. I am a young housewife and have enjoyed reading *The Cheerful Letter* for several years, handed me by a friend; and am writing to ask if some one will please send me some good books or magazines, as I am very fond of reading. I would also appreciate some quilt pieces. Mrs. B. L. Williamson, Clinton, North Carolina.

10. I have changed my address from Dodson, Virginia, to Fieldale, Virginia, and would like very much to have the following books: "The Heart of the Hills," John Fox, Jr.; "Barbara," L. G. Moberly; "Linked by Fate"; "Edith Lyle's Secret," Mary J. Holmes. Will some kind lady please send me the *Ladies' Home Journal*? Will appreciate reading matter of all kinds, as I haven't received any reading for some time. My address is now: Mrs. Sarah M. Thomas, Fieldale, Virginia.

11. We wish to thank our Cheerful Letter friends who have so kindly remembered us with books and magazines during the summer. They have given an old man many happy hours. We hope to be

remembered still during the coming winter. Any kind of reading will be highly appreciated. W. G. Jones, Lansing, North Carolina.

12. I am writing to thank all of the Cheerful Letter friends for their kindness to me and my little brothers and sister. You don't know how very much I appreciate their kindness. As I am receiving hardly anything now, I should like so much to have some good reading for myself and the others. My sister is thirteen and the boys seventeen, eleven, nine, and seven years of age. I am nineteen years of age. My mother has been dead for seven years, and I keep house for my father and brothers and sister. I am very fond of reading and as I have rheumatism, a good deal I am always glad of a good book or magazine. Frances Billingsley, Fredericksburg, Virginia.

13. Mrs. Ruth Green, Morris, Oklahoma, appreciates *The Cheerful Letter* which she receives, and asks for suitable readings and cards for the kiddies, seven and five.

14. I wish to thank every one who has sent us reading matter during the past year through the Cheerful Letter Exchange. I can assure you it has been a great help to many here. As it is only a short time until another Christmas will be here I want to request all who can to send us something for the children of this community at that time. Please remember us. J. R. Weaver, Lansing, North Carolina.

15. Mrs. Herbert Walker, Traffic, Virginia, asks for reading for herself, and cards and picture-books for the children.

16. Mrs. J. H. Beard and Miss Ellen Beard, Sandidges, Virginia, will be grateful for reading, especially Miss Ellen, who has been an invalid from childhood.

17. Mr. John D. Moore, Spencer, Virginia, a cripple from paralysis, as well as a shut-in, asks for reading to cheer him, as he so dreads the long, cold winter.

18. I am writing you in order to interest the Cheerful Letter friends in three worthy boys who would find life worth while if they could have some good reading matter sent them. I have already drawn heavily

upon your kindness in the past, and you have my warmest thanks therefor. But about these dear boys: First comes James Deming, Vanderbilt, Michigan, aged fourteen; he is in the seventh grade and doing nicely. He is assistant caretaker of my church; parents hard-working, good, honest people. The *Youth's Companion*, *American Boy*, or *Boy Scouts' Magazine* would do him no end of good. Second come Paul and John (brothers) Verplank, Hobart, Indiana, aged fifteen and thirteen, respectively. Parents poor. Both boys going to school and doing nicely in their studies. They would be made very happy in receiving magazines as named above, or good story-books. I shall be very glad if something can be done for these boys. All three are very bright boys. The Verplank boys worked all last summer and earned their own clothing and paid for their school-books. I cannot express my gratitude to the Cheerful Letter Exchange for the kindly help they have rendered me during the past year; and my pulpit work has been enriched greatly through the material sent me from time to time. With hearty God-speed, William A. Alleyne.

19. Mrs. Lucy Jones, Bassett, Virginia, Route 3, would like some reading and some embroidery threads and scraps.

20. *Needlecraft* is asked for by Mrs. Tom Hancock, 308 High Street, Cheraw, South Carolina.

21. *Unity* is asked for by Mrs. C. B. Merrick, Methuen, Mass., R. F. D.

22. I have been ill for some time and have just gotten back home from Catauba Sanatorium, where I went for treatment for tuberculosis. I am not well, yet improved; am not able to work, and would enjoy reading matter of any kind, and also pieces for patchwork to help while away the long hours, as I will be in all winter even if I get well. I have three children, aged two, and four, and six years. Would like picture-books and cut-out papers for them. Mrs. Harry C. Nelson, Critz, Virginia.

23. I wish to thank all who have sent me reading. I am not able to write to each one by letters, and wish to thank them in *The Cheerful Letter*. I am not

having any better health, and can hardly go at times; get so weak and nervous, have to lie down before I get through with the morning work. My side gives me lots of trouble and I suffer so much. I have six children to look after and therefore I try to go many times when I ought not to. The three oldest are boys, aged fifteen, thirteen, and ten years. My oldest girl is seven. She helps much in caring for the baby, which is nearly four months old. My second girl is four and a half years old. The long, cold winter months are drawing near and on account of my health and little ones I hope the dear people will remember me and family. Will be glad of any kind of reading that can be passed on, pictures and cards for the little girls. We live in the meadows. In winter the ground stands in water, as it is low and flat. They have ditches dug to carry the water off from the fields. People are not so thickly settled here. I am deprived of church and Sunday-school. Would be so glad of a Bible and a Gospel Hymn Book. Will appreciate patchwork pieces of any kind. I hope friends will remember the children Christmas, as we have had a drouth here this year and the crops are cut to about one-half. We didn't have but two good rains from sometime during May until September. People's wells went almost dry and they had to haul, using water from creeks. I hope some one can send *Comfort* or the *Deliverator* after they get through with it. Hoping the good work will still go on and I be remembered, I am thankfully, Mrs. Leonard Blankenship, Gretna, Virginia, Route 2.

24. Will you please remember this lady? She has lost her husband. He fell dead, leaving two little ones. She seldom gets out anywhere, and has to work very hard; not able to do much, though has to try. Would appreciate good reading any one will send and also cards and pictures for little boy and girl. Please send her some scrap pieces if possible. Reference, C. W. Clark, Worlds, Virginia. Address Mrs. Etta Dalton, Sandy Level, Virginia, R. F. D.

25. Edith Emole, Timber Ridge, Virginia, one of a family of ten fond of reading, asks for books, especially Longfellow's "Song of Hiawatha" and Lorimer's "With Other Eyes." They pass them on to an

invalid neighbor. She also asks for Victrola records. They have been given a talking machine, but only three records, and get very tired of them.

26. I want to thank every one of you who has remembered me since my request was published last year, and to ask if some of you will send me "Grimms' Fairy Tales" to read to my little grandson. Will appreciate other reading matter, and thank you in advance. Mrs. S. A. Pedigo, Vinton, Virginia.

27. Miss Annie L. Wood, Snowden, Virginia, acknowledges with appreciation books and magazines received, and wishes to be still remembered.

AT REST.

Mrs. M. A. Brown, Prague, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Anna Teague, Mannington, Kentucky.

Mr. Fred Geel.

THE MOTHERS' COUNCIL.

OUR PROPER RELATIONSHIP TO ANIMALS.

Thoughtful mothers, who wish to have their children grow up in the right attitude towards the dumb creatures around them, will be interested in the following extract from a recent magazine article. It seems to put the case in a manner equally far removed from hard selfishness on the one hand and from foolish sentimentality on the other hand.

The majority of people have perhaps no decided love for animals, and no very strong sense of justice, and in them we find all kinds of inconsistent attitudes. Some dote on their own pussy-cat but can't bear their neighbor's cat which comes over the wall and scratches in the garden, and they throw stones at him whenever they get a chance. Some who think that they are very "fond of birds" show their love by keeping miserable little creatures, who ought to be flying about in the woods and fields, cramped all their lives in tiny cages.

It is still quite a common idea that animals were made for us, and our use only. I often hear people say of some of the lower forms of life: "What is the use of it? It is no good to us," implying that

if we cannot get some benefit out of it it would be better out of the world, and we may do as we like with it. They can understand the meaning of a horse, a cow, a dog, but they seem to think God made a great mistake in creating such things as tigers, snakes, or rats. Animals were not created at all for our benefit any more than we were created for the benefit of a man-eating tiger in India. The animals and ourselves are part of the same creation.

What we all have to do is to try to implant in the members of the next generation a more just view of the claims of these, our veritable relatives.—*Ernest Bell, in Our Dumb Animals.*

CHILDREN'S CLASSICS.

THE LEGEND BEAUTIFUL.

*"Hadst thou stayed, I must have fled";
That is what the Vision said.*

Our American poet, Longfellow, once wrote a small book of stories all in verse,—the "Tales of a Wayside Inn." In the book, several friends have come together at the inn and each tells a story to the others. This particular story goes back to times long ago, when in European towns there was no regular, public help to be had for the poor, the sick, and the very old. If a person were unfortunate in any such way, his chief chance of getting help was through groups of men or of women who lived in houses called convents (or monasteries), dividing their time among the duties of teaching, studying, nursing, and praying for the sins of the world. This was long before the division had been made in the Christian Church, leading some to call themselves Protestants while others kept the old name, "Catholic." In those days, in Western Europe at least, it was all one great church.

The story is about a monk, one of the men who had decided to give all his time to religion and to the help of the unfortunate.

In his chamber, all alone,
Kneeling on the floor of stone,
Prayed the monk with deep contrition
For his sins of indecision;
Prayed for greater self-denial
In temptation and in trial;
It was noonday by the dial,
And the monk was all alone.

Suddenly, as if it lightened,
 An unwonted splendor brightened
 All within him and without him
 In the narrow cell of stone;
 And he saw the blessed vision
 Of our Lord, with light Elysian
 Like a vesture wrapped about Him,—
 Like a garment round Him thrown.

It was a beautiful vision he saw,—the Lord Jesus Christ looking just as He used to look long ago in the village streets and homes of Galilee. The monk had been trying for years to live as a sincere disciple should live, loving heartily both God and his neighbors. This wonderful vision of the beloved Master was the greatest piece of happiness he had ever known. He was still on his knees, lost in amazement and reverent joy, when the convent bell rang loudly.

That bell was the daily signal, made at a certain hour, for all the destitute and suffering people of the town, or their friends, to come to the convent gate and receive food and medicines from the brotherhood. And that day it was this particular monk's turn to meet the unfortunate ones and give out what they needed. How *could* he leave that blessed vision of the Master he loved, to go hand out bread and ointments to a lot of common, unpleasant folks at the gate, many of them uninteresting and ungrateful?

Then a voice within his breast
 Whispered, audible and clear,
 As if to the outward ear,
 "Do thy duty; that is best.
 Leave unto thy Lord the rest."

The monk obeyed the voice speaking through his conscience; he rose from his knees and went to attend to the needs of the sick people and the hungry people who had come to the gate. He did his best; he gave them material things to help their material needs; he kept praying silently for them all the time, remembering how the Christ came to make sick souls as well as sick bodies whole and clean. Then, when everything had been done that could be done, he went back to his own bare little room.

But he paused, with awestruck feeling,
 At the threshold of the door;
 For the Vision still was standing
 As he left it there before,
 When the convent bell, appalling,
 From the belfry calling, calling,
 Summoned him to feed the poor.

All the long hour intervening
 It had waited his return;
 And he felt his bosom burn
 Comprehending all the meaning,
 When the blessed Vision said—
 "Hadst thou stayed, I must have fled."

THE AMUSEMENT COLUMN.

[Address everything relating to the Amusement Column to Mr. Henry A. Jenks, 1925 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge 40, Mass. Contributors are requested to write on one side of the paper only. Write name and address plainly (not necessarily for publication), and send the answers to the puzzles on a separate slip of paper.]

I.

FALL HUNTING.

But 15 letters of the alphabet are used in the solution. 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-6-9 is a well-known rifle and shotgun made in Connecticut. 9-6-10-2-3-13-8-14-3 is a well-known rifle and shotgun made in New York. 10-11-9-12-2-3 is a well-known rifle and shotgun made in Connecticut. 7-8-6-15-6-3-7 is a well-known rifle and shotgun made in Massachusetts. 2-8-5-11-4-11 is a well-known shotgun made in New York. The following five words are well-known African animals, using the same key letters: 12-2-14-3; 8-2-13-6-9; 9-5-2-3-14-4-6-9-14-7; 13-14-9-2-12-12-11; 4-11-10-6-12.

—The American Boy.

II.

CHARACTERISTIC INITIALS.

1. Wofully Crazed.
2. Lost Her Sister.
3. Perished By Sea.
4. Funny, Bright Humorist.
5. Talented Child.

Answers to puzzles in the October number.

- I. FILL THE BLANKS: 1. Pots. 2. Tops. 3. Stop. 4. Spot. 5. Post.

- II. CONUNDRUMS: 1. Adam, because he was first in the race. 2. Noah, when he took Ham into the Ark. 3. Lansing, Michigan. 4. Because when he came to the Rhine he proposed to Bridget (bridge it). 5. When Henry VIII. dissolved the Pope's bull.

THE CHEERFUL LETTER EXCHANGE.

Chairman of the Cheerful Letter Exchange,
Mrs. W. B. Nichols, 25 Fairmount Way,
Quincy, Mass.

Secretary of the Cheerful Letter Exchange,
Mrs. Francis Hastings, Kendal Green, Mass.

Editor of The Cheerful Letter, Miss L.
Freeman Clarke, 5 Brimmer Street, Boston,
Mass.

Book Club Secretary, Mrs. W. B. Nichols,
25 Fairmount Way, Quincy, Mass.

Subscriptions to this paper (50 cents per year) should be sent to The Cheerful Letter Exchange, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass. Checks or postal orders should be payable to The Cheerful Letter Exchange.

OBJECTS.

1. To cheer and comfort the lonely and discouraged—not only invalids, but all who need cheer and comfort—by the interchange of letters and by gifts of books and periodicals.

2. To supply in some measure to young people in remote places the lack of schools, by gifts of school-books, letters, and, for those who desire it, correspondence classes on history, the natural sciences, and other interesting branches of study. If any desire to join such classes, they may send their names to our secretary.

3. Also to supply, to some extent, the lack of a church. One good sermon or similar article is printed in each number of the paper. These sermons are never doctrinal, but practical, and intended to cheer and comfort the sorrowful and aid in giving a vital religion without regard to sect or creed.

Any minister (of any sect) who receives this paper is cordially invited to distribute the copies of *The Cheerful Letter* received among lonely members of his parish, shut-ins or invalids of whom he may know. He is also invited to write to our headquarters (see address on this page) and give names and addresses of those who may be cheered and helped by becoming our correspondents.

No *theology* is disseminated in our paper. All the religious matter is intended merely to strengthen, cheer, and comfort those in need of such practical help.

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

To fill the unusual demand for copies of The Cheerful Letter, it will be greatly appreciated by the Committee if friends will do personal canvassing during the year and bring in a list of new subscriptions. Many of our correspondents feel that they can no longer afford to subscribe, but deplore the loss of the paper.

OFFERS.

Givers of books are reminded that only books of instructive or wholesome nature should be offered in the Book Club. Classics, educational works, and standard novels are always acceptable.

REQUESTS.

THE ATTENTION OF READERS IS CALLED TO THE FOLLOWING NOTICE:—

It is a rule of the Cheerful Letter Exchange that no one may ask for money, clothing, or other articles, except books and magazines.

The name of any person who fails to obey this rule will be dropped from our list. Any worker receiving such a request should send the letter at once to headquarters.

CIRCULATING LIBRARIES.

The Cheerful Letter Exchange offers to start a circulating library in any small community needing one, providing proper location and care can be furnished and satisfactory references supplied. Apply to Mrs. H. A. Stevens, 76 Edgemere Road, Quincy, Mass.

STUDIES AT HOME.

The Home Study Committee of the Cheerful Letter Exchange is planning for more efficient work.

Our aim is to help in subjects in which one is deficient; to help one fit himself for a higher grade of work.

We have books used in the schools here which can be used for supplementary work in the schoolroom or in the home.

Make all applications for this department to Mrs. George G. Saville, 30 Woodward Avenue, Quincy, Mass.

MUSIC.

The music sent out by this department has in the past given much pleasure; and now that there is more and more interest in "community singing" the calls for help may naturally be expected to be greater.

Offers and requests should be sent to Mrs. Thomas Lacey, 35 East 30th Street, New York City, or to All Souls Church, Fourth Avenue and 20th Street, New York City.